

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice.

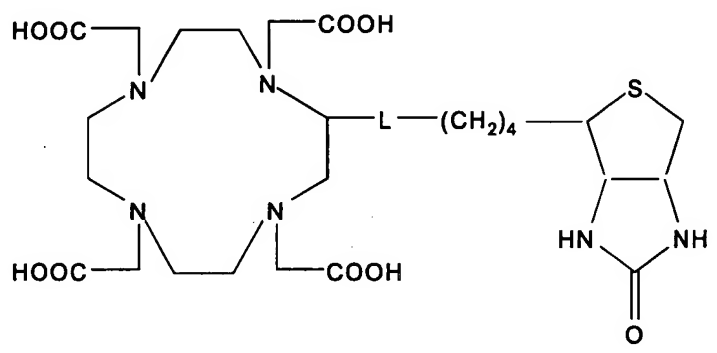
Please add new claims 16-19

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

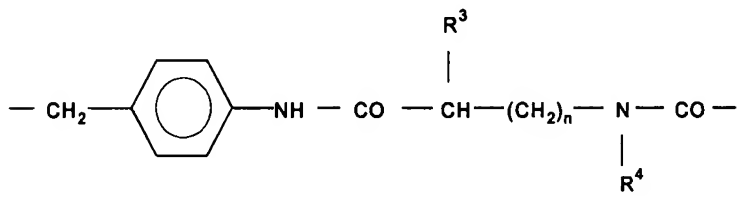
**Listing of Claims:**

1.-15. (Cancelled)

16. (New) A biotin-DOTA conjugate of the following formula:



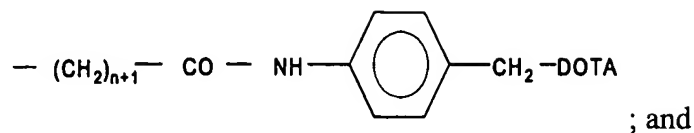
wherein L is a linker of the formula



wherein

$R^3$  is hydrogen; an amine; lower alkyl; a hydroxy-, sulfate- or phosphonate-substituted lower alkyl; a glucuronide; or a glucuronide-derivatized amino acid;

$R^4$  is hydrogen, lower alkyl or



n ranges from 0-4, wherein R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> cannot both be hydrogen.

17. (New) A biotin-DOTA conjugate according to claim 16 wherein R<sup>4</sup> is lower alkyl.

18. (New) A biotin-DOTA conjugate according to claim 16 wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; R<sup>4</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub>; and n is 4.

19. (New) A biotin-DOTA conjugate according to claim 16 wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen; R<sup>4</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub>; and n is 0.